

# MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

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## YOUNG CORDNER'S FUNERAL

Burial in Mexico—Girl's Suitors Arrested—Alleged Blackmail.

Clay City, Ill., May 3.—War-rants charging two young men, sons of leading families, with having related to Charles Bartholomew, slayer of Frank Cordner, the alleged slanderous remarks about his daughter, Inez, by Cordner, were issued this morning. E. L. Huston and Harvey Schnell are the boys arrested. They were suitors of Miss Bartholomew.

They were released on bonds of \$1,000 each, to appear at the preliminary hearing on May 10. Both refuse to make any statement.

Evidence adduced at the inquest showed that young Cordner and Bartholomew met Saturday evening and quarreled about Bartholomew's 18-year-old daughter. Friends of Bartholomew, formerly City Marshal, advised him to cease his efforts to run down the slanderer of his daughter. He informed them he would do so.

Witnesses before the coroner told how Frank Cordner, who formerly lived in Mexico, Mo., attempted to get inside the Rex Hotel, owned by his father, S. H. Cordner, when he saw Bartholomew approaching last night.

While he was walking toward the door the former City Marshal shot him, the bullet entering his back.

Before anyone could interfere, Bartholomew had fired five bullets into Cordner's body. He was overpowered and the revolver taken from him. Bartholomew was taken to the county jail at Louisville for safe keeping, as Clay City citizens were much wrought up.

Charges of attempted blackmail by Bartholomew are made by the boy's father. He has informed the authorities that Monday morning he met Bartholomew in a bank, and was told the matter would be dropped for \$500. Again yesterday morning the two men met, and the \$500 proposition was brought, according to Cordner.

"One of us will have to leave Clay City," Bartholomew is said to have answered the elder Cordner's refusal to pay any money.

Frank Cordner was not a suitor for Miss Bartholomew's affections. She will not talk about the shooting.

The streets were crowded with Clay City folks when the killing occurred. The band was giving a concert, which brought many persons from their homes.

The body of Frank Cordner was brought to Mexico last Thursday and the funeral was held at the C. & A. railroad station, burial in Elmwood cemetery. The following former associates of the young man here served as pall bearers: Clarence Ecton, Charles Bayless, Fred Burhop, Charles Craig, Percy Collins, and Walker Hughes.

## Mexico High School.

Tuesday, May 16—Class play, "One of Eight," at Grand Opera House, 8 p. m.

Thursday, May 18—Drawing and Manual Training displays at High School, 2 p. m.

Friday, May 19.—Commencement exercises and address by Dr. Winslip; Grand Opera House at 8 p. m. Last day of grade school; display of work and programs at 3 p. m.

Saturday, May 20.—Promotion address—eighth grade—at high school study hall at 8 p. m.

## Mrs. Campbell Dead.

Mrs. Nellie Burch Campbell, daughter of Z. T. Burch, formerly of Laddonia, this county, died at Dallas, Texas, on the 26th of last month. Her parents now reside in Kansas City, where the interment was made.

W. E. Newkirk has embarked in the real estate business.

## CENTRAL AMERICA.

Former Mexico Woman Visits the Canal and British Honduras.

Mrs. Hugh Sproul of Paris, Mo., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Boatman of Mexico, returned recently from British Honduras, where she visited her brother, Robert Boatman, and her nephew, Eddie Johnston, late of near Santa Fe, who are located there. She had a delightful trip. Returning she visited the Panama canal. Regarding her visit in the territory of the canal the Paris Appeal says:

Mrs. Hugh Sproul presented the Odd Fellows Lodge with a rose-wood and mahogany gavel as a souvenir of her trip to Central America. She was amazed at the work already accomplished in the Panama canal zone. Thirty-nine thousand men are employed every day. Five thousand barrels of cement are required every day on one section of the big ditch. Rivers have been eliminated, mountains removed, a great lake constructed and mighty chasms filled up. Once the deadliest locality on earth, the canal zone is now the healthiest because it has been made the most sanitary. All undergrowth, the disease-breeding swamps and the dreaded mosquito which scattered yellow fever germs, have been eradicated. The government has provided excellent quarters for all the workmen. Every house has running water and sewer facilities. Religious services, public entertainments and other things calculated to make the workmen contented, have been provided by the government. Health officers inspect every house in the zone every week. Provisions are supplied to the workmen as cheap as they could be had at home. In short, the work is being carried on under the most favorable conditions and without regard to expense, and every day brings nearer a realization of the dream of the centuries, the union of the Atlantic and Pacific waters across this narrow isthmus.

Mrs. Sproul went from the Atlantic to the Pacific side by rail, making the trip in two hours.

## HIGH HILL DISTRICT.

Planting corn is the order of the day. Quite a number planted in our district last week.

C. E. Sellers has three rattling good mule colts.

Ollie Sims and family and J. K. Botkin and family spent Sunday with B. F. Pulsis and wife.

Charley Boyd of Boone county brought sheep and horses to Elmer Shock's pasture here.

J. L. Smith and wife and daughter visited their daughter, Mrs. John Beatty, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. McCamman attended the funeral of Tommy Cox Sunday at Hickory Grove church.

C. E. Sellers bought of D. D. Oyer a cow and calf for \$38. Also six shoats, 100 lbs. each, at 6 cts per lb.

Mrs. John Rediger was called to Illinois last week on account of the serious illness of her sister there. Mrs. Rediger came home Monday and left her sister in a critical condition. Has consumption.

A large crowd was in attendance at the dedication of the new Christian church in Centralia Sunday.

Charley Sellers bought two calves of John Rediger at \$12.50 per head.

J. F. Edwards, Barton Iman and John Rediger shipped a car of sheep Monday.

Jessie Pulsis was in our district the first of last week visiting friends and relatives.

Miss Katie Matthews has resigned her position with the C. & A. railroad in Mexico and has accepted a position in a store at Louisiana.

## THIRTY GRADUATES.

Commencement Exercises at Hardin College Begins This Week.

The Hardin College Commencement exercises began this week. The remaining entertainments will be as follows:

Friday—Graduate piano recital by pupils of Professor Guerne and Professor Gjerdrum.

May 15—Graduate piano recital by pupils of Miss Sawyer.

May 17—Graduate piano recital by pupils of Professor Guerne.

May 18—Graduate expression recital.

May 22—Graduate voice recital by pupils of Mrs. Adam.

May 23—Graduate piano recital by pupils of Miss Lawson.

May 25—Graduate art levee, afternoon and evening.

May 26—Postgraduate recital, piano, Ruth Covington; voice, Frances Gupion.

May 28—Baccalaureate sermon 11 a. m., Doctor W. C. Anderson, Springfield.

May 29—Class day and alumnae day.

May 30—Graduating exercises.

The 1911 graduates are: Literary—Pauline Bretch, A. B., Hobart, Ok.; Clara Haggard, A. B., Mexico, Mo.; Veda McKinney, A. B., Gilliam, Mo.; Gladys Anna Seider, A. B., Okmulgee, Ok.; Myrtle Moore, B. L., Mexico, Mo.; Marie Rose, B. L., Mexico, Mo.; Jessica Wayham, B. L., St. Louis, Mo.

Piano—Lena Bryarly, Mexico, Mo.; Claudia Covington, Coalgate, Ok.; Margaret Cunningham, Mexico, Mo.; Frances Folsom Guthrie, Mexico, Mo.; India Cornelia Hines, Sallisaw, Ok.; Margaret Irvine, Marshall, Mo.; Beatrice Johnson, Moberly, Mo.; Florence Augusta Nettels, Topeka, Kas.; Ruth Robertson, Mexico, Mo.; Laura Irene Skelton, Okmulgee, Ok.

## Sues the Wabash.

W. A. Edmonston, the attorney, has brought suit against the Wabash railroad for \$1,040, alleging personal injuries from falling down the steps leading from Hardin Park to the station platform. He alleges the company should have had lights at the steps.

## Centralia Christian Church.

The new Centralia \$30,000 Christian church was dedicated last Sunday. Rev. Z. T. Sweney of Columbus, Indiana, preached the dedicatory sermon. About 100 persons attended from Mexico. Rev. W. A. Shullenberger of the Mexico Christian church delivered the communion sermon in the afternoon.

They are liberal in their giving to church because in Centralia. There was a balance of \$9,000 to liquidate the indebtedness of this new church, and last Sunday morning, in a very short time, \$11,000 was subscribed to square this debt.

## The Sleepers Poisoned.

Fayette, Mo., May 4.—A peculiar case of poisoning occurred near this city in the case of Thelma, daughter of Romie Leach, and Christine, daughter of Ernest Dougherty.

The children were sleeping in rooms freshly papered with green and purple wall paper. The moisture caused a deadly poison to fill the rooms. The odor was perceptible, but the parents believed it harmless. The Leach child is at the point of death.

## Farmers Quarrel.

Fulton, Mo., May 6.—James Dutton is lying at his home near Shamrock, south of Martinsburg, in a paralyzed condition and probably will die as the result of being struck over the head with an ax. A warrant has been sworn out for the arrest of Charles Kidwell, who is accused of the attack. Dutton and Kidwell had been cutting wood together and are said to have quarreled.

## FINE WHEAT PROSPECTS.

Mr. Householder to Plant 900 Acres of Corn—A Noted Horse Dead.

J. G. Crawford recently bought 18 calves from C. L. Dowell at \$30 per head.

J. G. Crawford, of the Molino community, is feeding two loads of calves and 200 hogs.

Milt Householder is feeding two loads of cattle and 60 hogs for the market.

Bert Roberts, southeast of Mexico, bought a nice young mare from Col. T. J. Bates for \$125.

Harry Householder, near Skinner, is expecting to harvest 160 acres of wheat this season. It is said that his prospects look fine.

Milt Householder, out Skinner way, will plant 150 acres of corn this season. He has a field of 100 acres of wheat which promises fine and 40 acres of oats.

Harry Householder will plant 900 acres of corn this season. Last year he had 22,000 bushels as his share of the crop on the 1280 acre C. F. Clark farm, near Skinner, this county.

Horace Mundy, one of Audrain's very best farmers and stockmen, topped the beef steer trade of East St. Louis one day last week by a consignment of 20 head of fine fellows, averaging 1300 pounds each that commanded \$6.00. Mr. Mundy has topped that market each time the last three loads he has shipped. He is feeding another load now and 100 head of hogs. He thinks the market is as low as it will get, and we hope he is right, for what prospers the stockmen and the farmer prospers the rest of us.

Diamond Montrose, 23 years old, a great show saddle horse in his day and sire of some of the famous saddlers of the present decade, died last Sunday morning on the farm of W. W. Johnson, who with George Gardner owned the animal. The horse was valued at \$1,000, though his owners would not sell him, having become so attached to the horse. Mr. Johnson bought him when he was 4 years old and had him ever since. He was the sire of almost one thousand blooded animals, whose total value at a conservative estimate would total over \$300,000. Until a few years ago Diamond Montrose was a well known horse and had won in many rings against the champions of this country. Diamond Montrose was exhibited on the streets of Mexico only a week before his death.

## New Suits Filed.

Horace Mundy has filed suit in the Circuit Court against the C. & A. railroad, alleging that defendant failed to keep the fence along its right of way touching plaintiff's land in good repair and on four different occasions he lost hogs because of this neglect, for which he asks damages for \$270.

Ed. M. Crooks of Rush Hill has sued the same road, alleging that said road, over which he shipped some stock last January, failed to deliver them for the following day's market, for which he asks \$300 damages.

## Mrs. Adams Dead.

Mrs. J. A. Adams died very unexpectedly of heart trouble at her home at Wellsville last Saturday afternoon. She was about 45 years of age. The husband and several children survive her. She was a sister-in-law of Mr. G. W. Adams of Mexico.

Miss Clara Mallory, of Jennings Kans., renews for the Message.

Attorney E. A. Shannon went to Oklahoma last week, representing Dr. J. B. Hawkins of this city, to investigate an error regarding the location of an artesian government well on some land belonging to Dr. Hawkins. The well will greatly advance the worth of the land.

## THE SCHOOL BOY.

He Likes The Study of Agriculture—Progress in Audrain.

W. R. Thompson, of Laddonia, one of the most progressive young farmers in all Audrain county, has the following interesting article in the Missouri Farmer and Breeder, published at Columbia, Mo.:

"Knowledge is power" and adds interest, enthusiasm and inspiration to the vocation or profession in which a person is engaged. We might travel the world over and view some of the grandest wonders of nature or some of the greatest accomplishments of man, both ancient and modern, and they would mean but little to us if we did not have some previous knowledge of their why and wherefore.

So it is with farming. Unless we have an intimate knowledge of the thing with which we deal, farming or any other occupation may become mere drudgery. Particularly is this true of the farm boy, and many have left the country to seek their fortunes in the cities with the results in many cases as Goldsmith says:

If to the city sped—what waits him there?  
To see profusion he must not share;  
To see ten thousand baneful arts combined,  
To pamper luxury, and their manifold kind,  
To see those joys the sons of pleasure know  
Extorted from his fellow-creatures' woe.

Here while the courier glitters in brocade,  
There the pale artist plies the sickly trade;  
Here while the proud their long drawn poms display,  
There the black gibbet glooms beside the way."

Ex-President Roosevelt has said that if agriculture were introduced into the rural school it would do much to help the boy between the ages of fourteen and twenty to feel that the school and farm had something valuable for him.

This has been the sentiment of many agricultural men for some time, but how to introduce it has been the problem. Among the things to overcome was to secure county superintendents who were in harmony with the idea and who could encourage, instruct, and enthuse the teachers with the idea; also to secure teachers who were trained or would prepare themselves to teach it, and in a way so that the pupils would be interested in the subject and at the same time give them something to take home with them of a "practical" nature so that the patrons could see its money value—for in many cases the farmer himself has been out of harmony with the movement.

Great progress has been made in Audrain County during the past decade and especially the past three years and the above problems have in a large measure been solved.

About eight years ago Prof. J. L. Shobe, our present superintendent of schools, taught the first class in agriculture ever taught in this county. This class was made up of one pupil. Today 75 per cent of the teachers in the county are teaching agriculture and the high schools in the principal towns have put in courses largely through Prof. Shobe's efforts, so that teachers could have a chance of preparing themselves near home. So one of the best good fortunes has been in securing a man for superintendent who has had some special training in agriculture to teach it, and thus is able to help others to go and do likewise.

One little incident that came under the writer's notice last fall at the County Teachers' Institute is to some extent a proof that the teachers of the county are much more interested than formerly. The incident was simply the close attention given by them to discussion and lectures on this subject as compared with that given at an institute a few years ago. However the proof of the pudding is as mentioned above, that 75 per cent of them are teaching it and interesting the pupils, for Prof. Shobe says that it is a common thing for teachers to tell him that the children take more interest in agriculture than any other subject.

The fact that the children are interested is proof of two things, that the teachers are interested and that the patrons are in harmony with the idea. This latter is certainly an indication of progress for in many instances the farmer himself has been the brake to progress, and probably in many cases he has been justified for so doing when the kind of teaching was considered, but when he sees it taught as it is today with its practical and profitable lessons such as selection, judging, testing of seed corn, treating oats for smut, testing milk, etc., he is in most cases in favor of its being taught and gives his consent and co-operation.

Mr. Geo. Coakley, one of our enterprising teachers, who has conducted one of the Emerson School Garden plats at his school this year, in speaking of the teaching of agriculture in rural schools said that he considered that the county school was one of the most proper places in which this subject should be taught. And so it is, for it is here that it will reach the majority of farm boys who are going to make farming their life work, and it is next to impossible to conceive of an idea or time when all farm boys will receive a college education in agriculture notwithstanding the fact that many more should have this kind of training.

The conclusion of the whole matter is that it is certainly to the farm boy's—the future farmer's—interest that he be interested and instructed in agriculture in the district school and it is the farmers' privilege to have it taught if he will but express himself, by electing that kind of a man as his county superintendent of schools and employing and co-operating with teachers who have prepared themselves for teaching agriculture.

## M. W. A. GATHERING.

Mexico Man Delegate to the National Camp at Buffalo.

Hannibal, Mo., May 3.—The State Camp of the Modern Woodmen of America convened in Hannibal this morning. The convention to-night was concluded by a moonlight excursion on the Mississippi River. More than 300 representatives, from every part of the State, were in attendance.

Before the election of officers Sedalia was selected for the 1914 State Camp. Columbia, Mexico, and other places were contending for the meeting.

Russell Kneisley of Carrollton, Mo., was elected State council. James A. Kerr of Ozark, Mo., was made State clerk. Sixty-four delegates to the National Camp, to be held at Buffalo, N. Y., in June, were chosen. They were instructed to vote for R. R. Smith of Brookfield, Mo., for member of the National Board of Directors, and G. S. Summers of Cape Girardeau, Mo., for national auditor.

Mayor John Dreyer welcomed the camp in behalf of the city.

Sidney J. Roy, secretary of the Commercial Club, made the address of welcome for the local camp. John Sullivan of Kansas City responded.

Among those who attended the Hannibal meeting from Audrain county were Val Erdel of Rush Hill and J. W. Plunkett of Mexico. The latter is one of the 64 delegates to go to the National Camp meet at Buffalo. "Pomp" Plunkett is clerk of the Mexico camp—has served in that capacity for a number of years—and is one of the hardest workers in the Modern Woodmen cause in the State. Val Erdel left nothing undone to help his Audrain Neighbor get the place of national delegate. Val Erdel is all right, too.

Mrs. Reed Chosen.

Mexico Woman at Head of Missionary Society.

Columbia, Mo., May 6.—Mrs. Walter L. Reed of Mexico was re-elected president of the Missouri branch of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society this afternoon.

The other officers are: Mrs. S. P. Emmons, Mexico, vice-president, in charge of mission study; Mrs. C. M. Aker, Columbia, vice-president, in charge of juvenile work; Miss Kathleen Graham, Carrollton, in charge of young people's work; Mrs. William Carson, Fayette, press-superintendent; Mrs. F. E. Stephens, Columbia, corresponding secretary; Mrs. J. R. Lyell, Shelton, recording secretary; Miss Hallie Sosey, Palmyra, treasurer; Mrs. A. F. Davis, Fayette, auditor; Mrs. W. L. Reed, alternate to Woman's Board.

The district secretaries are: Chillicothe, Mrs. H. E. Carson, Carrollton; Fayette, Mrs. Eston Brown, New Franklin; Gallatin, Mrs. E. E. Bostines, Gallatin; Hannibal, Mrs. J. A. Lanier, Palmyra; Macon, Mrs. A. E. Gundy, Shelby; Mexico, Mrs. James Goolley, Fulton; Plattsburg, Mrs. T. C. Smith, Lawson; St. Charles, Mrs. G. D. Avery, Troy; St. Joseph, Mrs. Lucy Miller, Agency.

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Photo J. L. Shobe.



Mrs. S. P. Emmons.

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